

§ 250.110

30 CFR Ch. II (7–1–12 Edition)

§ 250.110 What must I include in my welding plan?

You must include all of the following in the welding plan that you prepare under § 250.109:

- (a) Standards or requirements for welders;
- (b) How you will ensure that only qualified personnel weld;
- (c) Practices and procedures for safe welding that address:
 - (1) Welding in designated safe areas;
 - (2) Welding in undesignated areas, including wellbay;
 - (3) Fire watches;
 - (4) Maintenance of welding equipment; and
 - (5) Plans showing all designated safe-welding areas.
- (d) How you will prevent spark-producing activities (*i.e.*, grinding, abrasive blasting/cutting and arc-welding) in hazardous locations.

§ 250.111 Who oversees operations under my welding plan?

A welding supervisor or a designated person in charge must be thoroughly familiar with your welding plan. This person must ensure that each welder is properly qualified according to the welding plan. This person also must inspect all welding equipment before welding.

§ 250.112 What standards must my welding equipment meet?

Your welding equipment must meet the following requirements:

- (a) All engine-driven welding equipment must be equipped with spark arrestors and drip pans;
- (b) Welding leads must be completely insulated and in good condition;
- (c) Hoses must be leak-free and equipped with proper fittings, gauges, and regulators; and
- (d) Oxygen and fuel gas bottles must be secured in a safe place.

§ 250.113 What procedures must I follow when welding?

- (a) Before you weld, you must move any equipment containing hydrocarbons or other flammable substances at least 35 feet horizontally from the welding area. You must move similar equipment on lower decks at least 35 feet from the point of impact where

slag, sparks, or other burning materials could fall. If moving this equipment is impractical, you must protect that equipment with flame-proofed covers, shield it with metal or fire-resistant guards or curtains, or render the flammable substances inert.

- (b) While you weld, you must monitor all water-discharge-point sources from hydrocarbon-handling vessels. If a discharge of flammable fluids occurs, you must stop welding.

(c) If you cannot weld in one of the designated safe-welding areas that you listed in your safe welding plan, you must meet the following requirements:

- (1) You may not begin welding until:
 - (i) The welding supervisor or designated person in charge advises in writing that it is safe to weld.

(ii) You and the designated person in charge inspect the work area and areas below it for potential fire and explosion hazards.

- (2) During welding, the person in charge must designate one or more persons as a fire watch. The fire watch must:

- (i) Have no other duties while actual welding is in progress;
- (ii) Have usable firefighting equipment;
- (iii) Remain on duty for 30 minutes after welding activities end; and

(iv) Maintain a continuous surveillance with a portable gas detector during the welding and burning operation if welding occurs in an area not equipped with a gas detector.

- (3) You may not weld piping, containers, tanks, or other vessels that have contained a flammable substance unless you have rendered the contents inert and the designated person in charge has determined it is safe to weld. This does not apply to approved hot taps.

(4) You may not weld within 10 feet of a wellbay unless you have shut in all producing wells in that wellbay.

(5) You may not weld within 10 feet of a production area, unless you have shut in that production area.

(6) You may not weld while you drill, complete, workover, or conduct wireline operations unless:

- (i) The fluids in the well (being drilled, completed, worked over, or

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having wireline operations conducted) are noncombustible; and

(ii) You have precluded the entry of formation hydrocarbons into the wellbore by either mechanical means or a positive overbalance toward the formation.

§ 250.114 How must I install and operate electrical equipment?

The requirements in this section apply to all electrical equipment on all platforms, artificial islands, fixed structures, and their facilities.

(a) You must classify all areas according to API RP 500, Recommended Practice for Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities Classified as Class I, Division 1 and Division 2, or API RP 505, Recommended Practice for Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities Classified as Class I, Zone 0, Zone 1, and Zone 2 (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198).

(b) Employees who maintain your electrical systems must have expertise in area classification and the performance, operation and hazards of electrical equipment.

(c) You must install all electrical systems according to API RP 14F, Recommended Practice for Design and Installation of Electrical Systems for Fixed and Floating Offshore Petroleum Facilities for Unclassified and Class I, Division 1, and Division 2 Locations (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198), or API RP 14FZ, Recommended Practice for Design and Installation of Electrical Systems for Fixed and Floating Offshore Petroleum Facilities for Unclassified and Class I, Zone 0, Zone 1, and Zone 2 Locations (as incorporated by reference in § 250.198).

(d) On each engine that has an electric ignition system, you must use an ignition system designed and maintained to reduce the release of electrical energy.

§§ 250.115–250.117 [Reserved]

§ 250.118 Will BSEE approve gas injection?

The Regional Supervisor may authorize you to inject gas on the OCS, on and off-lease, to promote conservation

of natural resources and to prevent waste.

(a) To receive BSEE approval for injection, you must:

(1) Show that the injection will not result in undue interference with operations under existing leases; and

(2) Submit a written application to the Regional Supervisor for injection of gas.

(b) The Regional Supervisor will approve gas injection applications that:

(1) Enhance recovery;

(2) Prevent flaring of casinghead gas; or

(3) Implement other conservation measures approved by the Regional Supervisor.

§ 250.119 [Reserved]

§ 250.120 How does injecting, storing, or treating gas affect my royalty payments?

(a) If you produce gas from an OCS lease and inject it into a reservoir on the lease or unit for the purposes cited in § 250.118(b), you are not required to pay royalties until you remove or sell the gas from the reservoir.

(b) If you produce gas from an OCS lease and store it according to 30 CFR 550.119, you must pay royalty before injecting it into the storage reservoir.

(c) If you produce gas from an OCS lease and treat it at an off-lease or off-unit location, you must pay royalties when the gas is first produced.

§ 250.121 What happens when the reservoir contains both original gas in place and injected gas?

If the reservoir contains both original gas in place and injected gas, when you produce gas from the reservoir you must use a BSEE-approved formula to determine the amounts of injected or stored gas and gas original to the reservoir.

§ 250.122 What effect does subsurface storage have on the lease term?

If you use a lease area for subsurface storage of gas, it does not affect the continuance or expiration of the lease.